

CROW INDIAN TRIBE



Resources Report

S
O
C
I
O

E
C
O
N
O
M
I
C
S

SOCIO-ECONOMICS

Demographics

Population

Enrolled Members of the Crow Tribe of Indians

The Statewide Draft Oil and Gas EIS (pp. 3-38 and 3-48 thru 3-55) discusses general conditions related to population for the Crow Indian Reservation, the state of Montana, Big Horn County, and other counties. Page 3-38 in the Statewide Draft Oil and Gas EIS states the population of Crow tribal members is approximately 10,000. The following section presents additional information about population for the reservation, including Native Americans, whites, and other population groups.

Enrolled members of the Crow Tribe of Indians (Tribe) are the largest population group on the Crow Indian Reservation and in Big Horn County. The population of enrolled members was 10,220 in 2000 with (69%) living on the reservation (Iron 2001). The off-reservation population of tribal members in 2000 included 850 (8%) in Hardin, and 2,340 (23%) in other areas, primarily Big Horn County, Billings (Yellowstone County), and other Montana and Wyoming counties near the reservation.^{1,2}

Population of the Crow Indian Reservation

In the 2000 Census, the reservation's population was 6,890, an increase of 15% from 1980 (Census 2000). Also in 2000, 6,510 (94%) of the reservation's residents lived in the Big Horn County part of the reservation, and the population of the Yellowstone County part of the reservation was 380 (6%). Between 1990 and 2000, the population of the Crow Indian Reservation increased by 520 (8%), compared with population growth of 11.8% for all of Big Horn County during the decade. *Table 1* presents total population for the reservation.

To acknowledge undercount in the 1990 Census, the U.S. Census Bureau adjusted the count for Big Horn County by 930 persons (8%), from 11,340 (official count) to 12,270 (adjusted count, Census1990b). The undercount included 810 Native Americans and 110 whites. To be consistent with other census information related to population, this document uses the official, rather than adjusted count for population in the 1990 Census.

The 2000 Census identifies Native Americans (i.e., American Indians) as the largest population group on the Crow Indian Reservation and in Big Horn County. In 2000, the reservation's total population of 6,890 included 5,170 (75%) Native Americans.

The population of Native Americans has been growing at a higher rate than non-Native Americans on the reservation since 1980. During the 10-year periods 1980-1990 and 1990-2000, the population of Native Americans on the reservation increased by 15.7 and 9.5%, respectively. For the same periods, the population of non-Native Americans on the reservation decreased by 12.6% between 1980 and 1990, then increased by 4.2% between 1990 and 2000 (Census 1980, 1990, 2000).

¹ Numbers are rounded to the nearest ten, if applicable.

² Hardin is the Big Horn County seat.

The Statewide Draft Oil and Gas EIS (Table 3-16, p. 3-49) identifies Native Americans as nearly 60% of Big Horn County's population (12,670) in 2000. In addition, the Big Horn County part of the reservation had 51% of Big Horn County's population in 2000. In the 2000 Census, Native Americans were 6.2% of Montana's population (Census 2000).

TABLE 1					
POPULATION OF CROW INDIAN RESERVATION¹					
	Historical Population			Annual Average Growth (%)	
	1980	1990	2000	1980-1990	1990-2000
Crow Reservation	5,970	6,370	6,890	<1	<1
Big Horn County Part	5,630	6,040	6,510	<1	<1
Yellowstone County Part	340	290	380	<1	<1
Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. Census 2000 Public Law 94-171 File. ¹ Includes off-reservation trust land located in Big Horn, Yellowstone, and Treasure counties. The 2000 Census shows no population in trust lands off-reservation. N.A. is Not Available. Numbers are rounded to nearest ten.					

The population of the Crow Indian Reservation, with a median age of 27.6 in 2000, is younger than the general population of Montana, which had a median age 37.5 in 2000 (Census 2000a). *Table 2* presents characteristics of the reservation's population.

While population forecasts are not available specifically for the Crow Indian Reservation, Table 3-15 in the Statewide Draft Oil and Gas EIS (p. 3-48) shows that Big Horn County's population is expected to be 14,880 in 2020. The reservation would be expected to continue to have approximately 50% of Big Horn County's population through 2020.

In recent years, the population of the off-reservation part of the county has been increasing at a greater rate than the population of the on-reservation part of the county. Between 1990 and 2000, the population in the part of the Big Horn County within the external boundaries of the Crow Indian Reservation increased from 6,040 to 6,510 (7.8%). This rate is lower than population growth in the off-reservation part of the county, which increased from 4,970 to 5,780 (16.3%) during the same 10-year period. However, in the previous 10-year period (1980-1990), the population of the on-reservation part of the county increased from 5,630 to 6,040 (7.2%), while the population of the off-reservation part of the county decreased from 5,130 to 4,970 (-3.1%).

Given the potential for fluctuation in rates of population growth and distribution in areas of the Crow Indian Reservation and Big Horn County, available information for population growth and patterns of distribution indicates the population of the reservation will continue to be approximately 50% of the county's population through 2020 (Census 1980, 1990, 2000).

The IHS has prepared projections for populations of its service units; IHS estimates the population of enrolled members of the Crow Tribe will be 13, 770 in 2010 (IHS 1998), compared with 10,220 in 2000 (Iron 2001). According to the IHS, the 2010 estimate for the Crow Service Unit represents the total population of enrolled members of the Crow Tribe.

TABLE 2 POPULATION OF CROW INDIAN RESERVATION BY RACE,ETHNIC ORIGIN, AGE AND GENDER					
Population	1980	1990	2000	Annual Average Growth (%)	
				1980-1990	1990-2000
Total Population					
Total Population ¹	5,970	6,370	6,890	<1	<1
Race And Ethnic Origin					
American Indian	4,080	4,720	5,170	1.7	1
White	1,890	1,610	1,550	(<1)	(<1)
Hispanic Origin		90	190		11
Two or More Races		n.a.	140		n.a.
Some Other Race		20	30		5
Asian		10	10		--
African American		10	1		--
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander		n.a. ²	0		--
Age (General Categories)					
18 and Over	N.A.	3,870	4,300	--	1.2
Under 18	N.A.	2,500	2,590	--	<1
Age (Detailed Categories)					
Under 5	N.A.	710	680	N.A.	(<1)
5 to 9	N.A.	2,070 ²	700	N.A.	<1
10 to 14	N.A.		730	N.A.	
15 to 19	N.A.		710	N.A.	
20 to 24	N.A.		340 ³	430	
25 to 44	N.A.	1,880	1,810	N.A.	(<1)
45 to 54	N.A.	610	830	N.A.	3.6
55 to 59	N.A.	230	290	N.A.	2.6
60 to 64	N.A.	170	250	N.A.	4.7
65 to 74	N.A.	230	280	N.A.	2.1
75 to 84	N.A.	110	140	N.A.	2.7
85 and Over	N.A.	20	40	N.A.	10
Median Age	N.A.	25.6	27.6	N.A.	--
Gender ²					
Female	N.A.	3,170	3,470	N.A.	1
Male	N.A.	3,200	3,420	N.A.	<1
Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. Census of Population and Housing 1990. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics for 2000: Crow Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Lands.					
¹ Numbers from Census may not add to total.					
² Age 5 to 17 and 18 to 20 in 1980 Census.					
³ Age 21 to 24 in 1980 Census.					
< is less than; (#) indicates negative number					
Numbers are rounded to nearest ten, if applicable.					

A portion of the 2010 population would live in the Big Horn County part of the Crow Indian Reservation. As discussed above in this document and in the Statewide Draft Oil and Gas EIS, Crows live on and off the reservation (Iron 2001). Based on available information, it is expected that the percentages of Crows living on (69%) and off (31%) the reservation in the 2000 Census would apply to the 2010 population estimates.

The population of the reservation is distributed between small, rural communities and rural areas outside communities. In 2000, 3,070 people lived in the communities of Crow Agency, Lodge Grass, Wyola, Pryor, Saint Xavier and Yellowtail (i.e., Fort Smith), and 3,820 people lived in rural areas outside communities. Crow Agency is the largest community on the reservation, with a population of 1,550 in 2000 (Census 2000). Native Americans are the largest population group in the communities on the Crow Indian Reservation. *Table 3* presents population of communities on the reservation.

The communities of Hardin, Crow Agency, Lodge Grass, and Wyola, which are located along Interstate Highway 90 (I-90), would be on the western edge of the Crow CBM production area, as shown in the Statewide Draft Oil and Gas EIS.

In the 2000 Census, the population of an area within 15 to 20 miles of the reservation's eastern boundary, along the full length of the boundary, is approximately 490; this includes 330 (67%) Native Americans, 150 (30%) whites, and 10 (2%) other racial/ethnic groups (Census 2000b).

The wider area between I-90 and the reservation's eastern boundary, not including Hardin, had a population of approximately 5,110 in 2000, with 4,100 (80%) Native Americans, 900 (18%) white, and 110 (2%) other racial/ethnic groups.

Poverty Status

The Statewide Draft Oil and Gas EIS (pp. 3-50 and 3-51) describes general criteria for poverty status and identifies the Crow Indian Reservation as being in an area of Montana with poverty rates higher than the state average. The Statewide Draft Oil and Gas EIS (Table 3-17, p. 3-51) shows Big Horn County's percentage of the population below poverty level as 29.6% in 1997, compared with a statewide rate of 15.5%. Table 3-17A (p. 3-52) also identifies 38% of tribal members employed and below the poverty threshold.

In the 1990 Census, the percentage of persons on the Crow Indian Reservation living below poverty level was 41.7% (Census 1990). Information from the 2000 Census for poverty status will be available in the last half of 2002 (CEIC 2002). *Table 4* presents information about poverty status for the reservation.

TABLE 3 POPULATION OF COMMUNITIES CROW INDIAN RESERVATION AND BIG HORN COUNTY			
Community	1980¹	1990	2000
On-Reservation			
Total Population ¹	5,970	6,370	6,890
Crow Agency (CDP)	N.A.	1,450	1,550
Lodge Grass (Town)	500	520	510
Wyola (CDP)	N.A.	N.A.	190
Pryor (CDP)	N.A.	650	630
Saint Xavier (CDP)	N.A.	N.A.	70
Yellowtail (Fort Smith, CDP)	N.A.	N.A.	120
SUBTOTAL: Communities On-Reservation	500	2,620	3,070
Area On-Reservation, Outside Communities			
	5,470	3,750	3,820
Off-Reservation			
Hardin, Montana (City)	3,300	2,940	3,380
Race and Ethnic Origin for Communities in 2000 Census			
	Native American	White	Other
Crow Agency (CDP)	1,480	60	10
Lodge Grass (Town)	440	60	10
Wyola (CDP)	150	40	<5
Pryor (CDP)	530	80	20
Saint Xavier (CDP)	40	20	10
Yellowtail (Fort Smith, CDP)	80	40	<5
Hardin (City)	1,070	2,110	120
Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. Census of Population and Housing 1990 (STF 1A). Population, Housing Units, Area and Density 2000. ¹ 1980 Census did not identify population for CDPs. CDP is census-designated place. City and town designate incorporated communities. N.A. is Not Available. Numbers are rounded to nearest ten.			

Social Organization

Housing Units and Vacancy

The Statewide Draft Oil and Gas EIS (p. 3-52) discusses general conditions related to permanent housing and temporary housing (i.e., primarily motels and campgrounds) throughout an area that includes the Crow Indian Reservation. The following section presents additional information about housing for the reservation.

TABLE 4
POVERTY STATUS
CROW INDIAN RESERVATION

	1980 <i>(In 1979)</i>	1990 <i>(In 1989)</i>	2000¹
Persons for Whom Poverty Status Determined ²	1,350	6,310	N.A.
Persons Below Poverty Level		2,630	N.A.
Persons Below Poverty Level (%)	33.1	41.7	N.A.
Families Below Poverty Level	213	520	N.A.
Families Below Poverty Level (%)	29.6	35.6	N.A.
Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. Census of Population and Housing 1990 (STF 3A).			
¹ Poverty status in the 2000 Census is expected to be available beginning in mid- to late-summer 2002.			
² Thresholds for poverty status in 1990 range from \$6,300 for an individual to \$15,360 for five-person households and \$25, 270 for households with nine or more persons.			
Numbers are rounded to nearest ten, if applicable.			

Permanent Housing

The Crow Indian Reservation has a shortage of adequate housing for the needs of the current population. The Crow Tribal Housing Authority has identified 540 housing assisted homes and 180 low rent homes on the reservation in 2002 (Tribal Housing Authority 2002). In addition, the housing authority has identified 250 homes with more than one family in the household, and there is a waiting list with 300 families needing housing.

In 1997, the BIA identified a need for 1,040 new housing units (BIA 1997). There were 890 families in need of housing, and BIA recorded 370 (48%) of the reservation's 1,130 of housing units as being in substandard condition; 150 of the substandard units needed replacement.

Substandard conditions for housing include plumbing, insulation, electrical, exterior structure, and weatherization (Tribal Housing Authority 2000). *Table 5* presents information about housing.

The Crow Indian Reservation's shortage of housing is indicated by its relatively low homeowner (1.5%) and rental (3.4%) vacancy rates in 2000. This compares with statewide homeowner and rental vacancy rates of 2.2 and 7.6% respectively (Census 2000a).

Temporary Housing

Hardin, Montana just north of the reservation, and Sheridan, Wyoming, approximately 25 miles south of the reservation, are the communities in the area with facilities and services to adequately provide temporary housing.

TABLE 5 HOUSING UNITS AND VACANCY CROW INDIAN RESERVATION AND COMMUNITIES		
	1990	2000
Total Housing Units		
Total Housing Units	2,090	2,280
Occupied Housing Units		
Owner Occupied	1,060	1,320
Renter Occupied	610	540
Vacant Housing Units		
Total Vacant Units	420	420
Seasonal/Recreation/Occasional Use	110	190
Homeowner Vacancy Rate (%)	1.9	1.5
Rental Vacancy Rate (%)	3.8	3.4
Persons Per Unit		
Owner Occupied	3.72	3.54
Renter Occupied	3.89	3.86
Housing Units in Communities		
Crow Agency (CDP)	360	360
Lodge Grass (Town)	180	160
Wyola (CDP)	N.A.	60
Pryor (CDP)	170	200
Saint Xavier (CDP)	N.A.	40
Yellowtail (Fort Smith, CDP)	N.A.	140
<i>Hardin (City), Off-Reservation</i>	1,300	1,410
Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. Census of Population and Housing 1990. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics for 2000: Crow Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Lands. Table Dp-1. Numbers are rounded to nearest ten, if applicable. N.A. is Not Available.		

Attitudes, Beliefs, Lifestyles, and Values

The Statewide Draft Oil and Gas EIS (pp. 3-53 and SEA-3 and 4) discusses general conditions related to the Crow's attitudes, beliefs, lifestyle, and values. The section Culture and History in this document presents details about the attitudes, beliefs, lifestyle, and values for the Crow Tribe and people.

Economics

Employment

The Statewide Draft Oil and Gas EIS (pp. 3-38 and 3-52 thru 3-57) discusses general conditions related to employment for the Crow Indian Reservation, state of Montana, Big Horn County, and other counties. The following section presents additional information about employment for the reservation, including Native Americans, whites, and other population groups in the work force.

Information about employment for the Crow Indian Reservation is available from the 1990 Census and applies to the total population of the reservation. Information from the 2000 Census for employment will be available in the last half of 2002 (CEIC 2002). In the 1990 Census, total employment on the reservation was 1,660. Agriculture (330, 20%), education (240, 15%), and retail trade (230, 14%) were the largest sectors of employment. Private wage and salary (780, 47%) and government (590, 36%) were the largest classes of employment (Census 1990). The Crow tribal government employs 400 persons in 2002 (Tribal Personnel Office 2002). *Table 6* presents information about employment.

In comparison with all of Big Horn County, the reservation has a higher percentage of employment in the agricultural sector (20%) than the overall county (3%). The percentage of employment in retail trade on the reservation is similar to that of the rest of the county.

Labor Force and Unemployment

The Statewide Draft Oil and Gas EIS (pp. 3-38 and 3-58 thru 3-59) discusses the labor force and unemployment for the Crow Indian Reservation, state of Montana, Big Horn County, and other counties. The following section presents additional information about the labor force and unemployment for the reservation.

Page 3-38 of the Statewide Draft Oil and Gas EIS states the tribal workforce was 3,900 in 1999, and Page 3-59 (Tables 3-23 and 3-23A) states the unemployment rates in 1999 for the overall reservation and tribal workforce were 14.9% and 61%, respectively (BIA 1999). In the 1990 Census, the reservation's labor force (i.e., persons 16 years and over) was 2,380, with an unemployment rate of 30.4% (Census 1990). *Table 7* presents information about labor force and unemployment.

Income

The Statewide Draft Oil and Gas EIS (pp. 3-38 and 3-60) discusses income for the Crow Indian Reservation, the state of Montana, Big Horn County, and other counties. Page 3-38 of the Statewide Draft Oil and Gas EIS states tribal members' per capita income was \$4,243 in 1999, and Page 3-60 (Table 3-24) states the overall Big Horn County average per capita income for 1998 was \$13,329; this was 62.4% of the statewide average. Tribal members' 1999 per capita income was 32% of the county's 1998 overall per capita income and 20% of Montana's 1998 per capita income. The following section presents additional information about income for the reservation.

In the 1990 Census, median household income for the reservation was \$17,270, compared with \$19,900 for Big Horn County and \$22,988 for the state (Census 1990a). *Table 8* presents information about income.

Government Revenue Sources

The section, Tribal Government Fiscal Resources, in this document presents information about the Crow Tribe's governmental revenue sources.

TABLE 6 EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY AND CLASS CROW INDIAN RESERVATION		
	1990 <i>(In 1989)</i>	2000¹
Employment by Industry		
TOTAL	1,660	N.A.
Agriculture/Forestry/Fisheries	330	N.A.
Mining	40	N.A.
Construction	80	N.A.
Manufacturing	60	N.A.
Transportation	40	N.A.
Communications/Public Utilities	30	N.A.
Wholesale Trade	30	N.A.
Retail Trade	230	N.A.
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	40	N.A.
Business and Repair Services	50	N.A.
Personal Services	20	N.A.
Entertainment/Recreation Services	50	N.A.
Health Services	160	N.A.
Education Services	240	N.A.
Other Professional/Related Services	110	N.A.
Public Administration	150	N.A.
Employment by Class		
Private Wage and Salary	780	N.A.
Government	590	N.A.
Self-employed	260	N.A.
Unpaid Family	30	N.A.
Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. Census of Population and Housing 1990 (STF 3A). ¹ Employment in the 2000 Census is expected to be available beginning in mid-to late-summer 2002. Numbers are rounded to nearest ten, if applicable.		

Environmental Justice

The Statewide Draft Oil and Gas EIS (p. 3-66) discusses general conditions related to required disclosure of information about low-income and minority populations for environmental justice. A comprehensive environmental justice assessment will require developing a methodology for environmental justice assessment. This assessment will incorporate and consolidate information for the affected environment and environmental consequences related to demographics, human health and welfare, public participation, and communities for the Crow Indian Reservation and the entire project area.

TABLE 7 LABOR FORCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT CROW INDIAN RESERVATION		
	1990	2000¹
Persons 16 Years and Over	4,160	3,590.
In Labor Force	2,380	2,920.
Percent in Labor Force (%)	57.3	70.
Employed	1,660	2,300
Unemployed	720	630.
Unemployment Rate (%)	30.4	21.5
Source(s): 1990 is U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. Census of Population and Housing 1990 (STF 3A). 2000 is Montana Department of Labor and Industry, Research and Analysis, Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS). ¹ Labor force and unemployment in the 2000 Census is expected to be available beginning in mid- to late-summer 2002. Numbers are rounded to nearest ten, if applicable.		

TABLE 8 INCOME CROW INDIAN RESERVATION		
	1990 <i>(In 1989)</i>	2000¹
Household Income		
Households ²	1,690	N.A.
Less than \$5,000	180	N.A.
\$5,000 to \$9,999	340	N.A.
\$10,000 to \$14,999	280	N.A.
\$15,000 to \$24,999	340	N.A.
\$25,000 to \$34,999	230	N.A.
\$35,000 to \$49,999	180	N.A.
\$50,000 to \$74,999	110	N.A.
\$75,000 to \$99,999	20	N.A.
\$100,000 to \$149,999	10	N.A.
\$150,000 or More	0	N.A.
Income Levels		
Median Household Income (\$)	17, 270	N.A.
Per Capita Income (\$)	5, 730	N.A.
Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. Census of Population and Housing 1990 (STF 3A). ¹ Income in the 2000 Census is expected to be available beginning in mid- to late-summer 2002. ² Households include family (1,450) and non-family (240) households. Numbers are rounded to nearest ten, if applicable.		